

Outreach Education

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Curecanti National Recreation Area

National Park Service



Grade 4, Pre-Visit Activity, "The Gunnison River-Neversink"

Name: _____

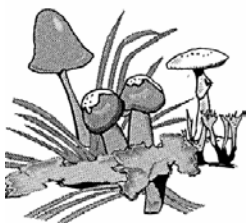
Instructions: Read the following paragraph and find the underlined words in the word search below.

When you visit Curecanti National Recreation Area, you will have the chance to explore a riparian or riverside habitat. There are many plants and animals which live in a riparian habitat and have adaptations or special features which enable them survive. Some insects in the river actually stick to the rocks when the velocity or speed of the river becomes too great! All plants and animals need water from the river, but they also need the sun. Plants are called producers because they make food from the sun in a process called photosynthesis. Chlorophyll, which gives the plants their green color, is necessary for plants to make their food! Besides making their own food, plants are food for other animals. Herbivores are animals that eat only plants. Carnivores are animals that eat only meat (animals). Omnivores are animals that eat both plants or animals. Herbivores, Carnivores, and Omnivores are all called Consumers. What are you?

Once an animal or a plant dies, decomposers, like earth worms or fungi, help break it down so it becomes part of the soil. Everything in nature has a purpose! Although everything grows and eventually dies, plants and animals are still abundant through reproduction. Plants are especially good at reproducing. They reproduce through pollination or seed dispersal. At the Neversink trail in Curecanti National Recreation Area, life is everywhere. You'll get an up-close look when you visit!

(The words may be found vertically, horizontally, diagonally, or backwards!)

A	C	H	L	O	R	O	P	H	Y	L	L	A	W	G	K	P	S
D	A	P	L	K	D	S	Q	N	M	O	V	X	M	B	D	G	I
A	R	F	P	H	V	X	C	G	Q	W	E	A	N	Z	H	O	S
P	N	J	R	H	D	S	O	A	W	E	L	R	O	Y	I	P	E
T	I	P	O	L	L	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	M	B	N	M	H
A	V	J	D	K	O	L	S	P	F	D	C	S	N	E	V	O	T
T	O	A	U	S	D	F	U	H	J	K	I	L	I	I	P	N	N
I	R	Z	C	X	C	V	M	B	N	M	T	L	V	K	A	H	Y
O	E	L	E	C	V	B	E	N	M	P	Y	O	O	I	N	I	S
N	S	E	R	H	J	K	R	T	S	A	I	N	R	R	S	T	O
S	V	B	S	M	K	M	S	B	V	F	G	A	E	K	O	P	T
S	R	E	S	O	P	M	O	C	E	D	P	R	S	S	T	B	O
R	T	Y	N	J	K	H	E	R	B	I	V	O	R	E	S	J	H
S	E	E	D	D	I	S	P	E	R	S	A	L	H	J	K	F	P



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Instructions: Label each of the following as a producer, primary consumer, secondary consumer, or decomposer.





















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Instructions: Draw piles of sediment (sand) on the appropriate bends in the river and label each arrow as an inside or an outside bend.

River Velocity

